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Application N .. 09/614,947
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PATENT

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-26 are pending in the present application. Applicants note with appreciation the indication of the allowability of claims 1-21. Claims 22-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 for alleged obviousness over U.S. Patent No. 5,288,931, Hart et al. (*Biotechnol. Appl. Biochem.*, 20:217-232 (1994)), and Elliott et al. (*J. Prot. Chem.*, 9(1):95-104 (1990)). Applicants traverse the rejection. Nonetheless, in an effort to advance prosecution of the application, Applicants have canceled claims 22-26 without prejudice to prosecution of the subject matter set forth therein at a later date.

Applicants note that the specification has been amended to reflect the patent numbers of the applications of which priority is presently claimed.

Applicants submit that the amendments to the claims and specification do not introduce new matter and are fully supported by the specification and claims as originally filed. Applicants submit that the present claims meet all the requirements for patentability. The Examiner is respectfully requested to allow all the present claims. If the Examiner is of a contrary view, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at (215) 557-5908.

Respectfully submitted,


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